building at a cost of Rs. 2,000. The Member prayed that the Government might be pleased to take up the building and conduct the school or that a substantial grant might be sanctioned in aid of the institution.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

149. Needs of the Mavelikara taluk.

Mr. K. G. Madhavan (Member, Nominated) referred to the following needs of the Mavelikara taluk and prayed that the same might receive the early attention of the Government:—

(1) The establishment of an English school for girls.

(2) The early completion of the new building for locating the Munsiff's Court.

(3) The establishment of a College at Mavelikara for the benefit of the whole of Central Travancore.

(4) Rendering assistance to the people of the taluk, especially the ryots of Onattukara, by affording them better facilities for paddy cultivation.

(5) The removal of the encroachments on the tributaries of the Kulakkada river and the vesting of the power to effect such removals in the canal on the P. W. Department, instead of the Land Revenue Department.

(6) The construction of a bridge over the Kuripuzha *thodu*, half a furlong west of the Kuripuzha bridge.

(7) The establishment of an Agricultural School near the Experimental Farm.

(8) Encouraging and helping the weaving industry recently started by private enterprise.

(9) Sanctioning grant-in-aid to a private dispensary started for curing snake-bite.

(10) Metalling a part of the road lying to the west of Chettikulangara temple and extending it to a point between Kuripuzha and Pathiyur bridges.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

150. Needs of the Ettumanur taluk.

Mr. R. Narayana Pillai (Member, Ettumanur taluk) made the following requests and prayed that the Government might be pleased to grant the same:—

(1) The condition of education was backward in the taluk. The Lower Grade Secondary school in the taluk should be raised to the standard of a High School.

(2) A dispensary should be established near the Sub-Registry Office at Kaduthuruthi; or, if that was not possible, the Hospital Assistant at the Vaikom Hospital might be asked to stay three days in the week at Kaduthuruthi to examine and treat patients. A mid-wife should also be permanently sanctioned for Kaduthuruthi.

(3) The abandoned irrigation canals at Kaduthuruthi should be improved. The people were sure to co-operate and render every assistance. The Director of Agriculture and Fisheries should be asked to inspect and report on the condition of other canals which could not be easily improved. The Government should give to the ryots free of cost the *kole* teak required for making bridges, bunds, etc., for storing water in the summer season for agricultural purposes.

(4) The three feet trace from the Pala road to Thalayolaparambu Market passing through Pulluvattom, Kattamppakku and Gneezhoor should be made a public road.

(5) The *punja* cultivation suffered badly on account of the failure to put up bunds at the proper time to prevent the entry of brackish water into the paddy fields. If the fund sanctioned for the purpose was entrusted to the Ettumanur Taluk

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Samajam, they would do the needful at the proper time. It would at least be sufficient if the Taluk Samajam was consulted as to the time when the bunds should be put up.

(6) The ryots should be permitted to remove shrubs and bushes from the Vedagiri Reserve for *punja* cultivation.

(7) A canal should be cut from Vempallithodu to the paddy fields west of Kanakkari. A portion of the cost and interest on the capital outlay could be realised from the ryots along with the land tax.

(8) The H. G. E. school for boys at Kaduthuruthi was held in a temporary shed which was not strong enough. A building should be constructed for locating the school at an early date.

(9) The L. G. E. school for girls at Kaduthuruthi should be raised to an H. G. E. school.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

151. Desirability of partitioning the Chengannur taluk into two taluks with Pathanamthitta as the head-quarters of one of them.

Mr. Varghese Kathanar (Member, Chengannur taluk) said that the subject of partitioning the Chengannur taluk into two taluks had been brought up at more than one session of the Assembly. At one time the eastern portion of the taluk was unexplored and uninhabited and so the head-quarters was fixed at Chengannur which was on the western end of the taluk. Since then the eastern portion had grown in importance. The enterprising European planters had opened many valuable estates in the Eastern *pakuthis*. Following them, many natives of the taluk also cultivated the lands registered in their names as *pudural* and lived in the eastern parts. They had to travel a distance of 25 to 35 miles to reach head-quarters to transact their business. There were extensive areas of *puduval* lands still available for registry in the eastern parts. The Tahsildar was not able to supervise the *puduval* registries effectively. The population was also increasing. The money transactions from the Government offices at Pathanamthitta were conducted in the Kunnathur treasury, on account of the difficulty of carrying treasure to the Chengannur treasury. The revenue of the taluk had also largely developed in recent years. There was a Magistrate's Court at Pathanamthitta. The additional expenditure in forming another taluk with Pathanamthitta as the head-quarters would not be much. With the formation of the proposed new taluk, there would be a substantial increase in *puduval* registry. That was sure to bring an appreciable revenue to the Government. The people were even prepared to incur the burden of an extra tax, if the above boon were granted. The difficulties to which the people were put had been realised by responsible officers of the State, including the Dewan. The Member prayed, therefore, that the Chengannur taluk be divided into two taluks and that the head-quarters of the new taluk be fixed at Pathanamthitta. He also suggested that the territorial jurisdiction of the new taluk might comprise the *pakuthis* of Pathanamthitta, Ranni, Kumpazha, Elanthoor and Omallur of the present Chengannur taluk, Vallikode pakuthi of the Kunnathur taluk, and Mallappuzhacheri and Cherukol *pakuthis* of the Tiruvalla taluk.

Dewan's reply.—As stated by me in reply to the representation at the last session of the Assembly, the Government feel that the partition of the Chengannur taluk into two is necessary. But, owing to financial considerations, it has not been possible to carry out the proposal. The question will receive consideration in due time.

152. Desirability of partitioning the Peermade taluk into two taluks, with Kanjirapalli as the head-quarters of one of them.

Mr. Mathai Thoma (Member, Peermade taluk) said that it was desirable to split the present Peermade taluk into two taluks with Kanjirappalli as the head-quarters of one of them. He proposed that the jurisdiction of the new taluk might comprise the *pakuthis* of Kanjirappalli, Chirakkadavu, Cheruvalli, Manimala and Poonjar. Those five *pakuthis*, though at present included in the Peermade taluk, resembled Central Travancore more or less in respect of climatic conditions and were

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